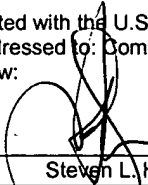




CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:	
<u>January 12, 2004</u> Date	 Steven L. Highlander

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Nikolaus THERES

Serial No.: 09/403,262

Filed: October 15, 1999

For: PLANTS WITH CONTROLLED SIDE-SHOOT FORMATION AND/OR CONTROLLED ABSCISSION ZONE FORMATION

Group Art Unit: 1638

Examiner: Ashwin Mehta

Atty. Dkt. No.: DEBE:016US/SLH

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO  
OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

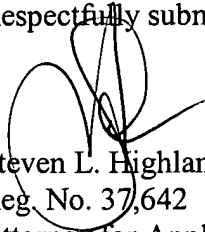
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time of one month to and including August 11, 2001 in which to respond to the Office Action dated September 12, 2003.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, a check in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed, which is the process fee (\$110.00) for a one-month extension of time.

If the check is inadvertently omitted, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an

overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/DEBE:016US/SLH.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven L. Highlander  
Reg. No. 37,642  
Attorney for Applicant

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.  
600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2400  
Austin, Texas 78701  
(512) 536-3184

Date: January 12, 2004